

session and took the opportunity to speak with conference delegates about providing financial support to save the children from death and starvation. As a result of her passionate plea, the delegates raised \$8 million to feed the children.

While our situation at home is not nearly as devastating as that of Biafra's starving children, Mrs. Crank steps up to bat just as compassionately for our public housing residents. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues some of her goals as chair of the NHA Board of Commission. Mrs. Crank would like to see public housing residents own their homes, if they have the means; have more persons who are gainfully employed reside as tenants; businesses developed in the public housing communities that would strengthen economic development and benefit the residents; and public housing made drug free. Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I extend my best wishes to Mrs. Crank and the members of the Newark Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners—Gloria Cartwright, Ida Clark, Terry Pringle, Lynell Robinson, Zinnerford Smith, and Rolando Velazquez—and the Authority's executive director, Harold Lucas, as they continue to work to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing for Newark's residents and to set the standards and provide the benchmarks for other public housing entities.

RAILS TO TRAILS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation regarding Rails to Trails. This legislation makes what I believe are common-sense changes to the current Rails to Trails Program.

Under this bill, local communities could actively participate in deciding whether or not to convert an abandoned rail line into a trail. This legislation simply states that local government officials must approve a rails to trails decision before a line is designated for a trail use. Under the current program, only the Surface Transportation Board decides whether to approve a rail to trail conversion.

Like many Federal laws and programs, Rails to Trails is top-heavy and the decision-making is done in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, people who live in Washington, DC, do not always understand what the communities in Kansas desire. We need more local control and decision-making to insure that the needs of local communities and property owners are considered.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to support this legislation and allow local communities to participate in the Rails to Trails process.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE HAFF

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to my

constituent Marie Haff on her birthday. This past June 29, 1997, Marie Haff turned 80 years young.

Marie Haff, a resident of Pleasanton, CA, is a strong believer in family, hard work, and education. She is the proud mother of three daughters, grandmother of nine children, and great-grandmother of three. Although Marie officially retired in 1982 from her job, manager of the Northern California Credit Bureaus, she certainly has not stopped working. Currently, she is a trustee emeritus of Western Management Institute of Washington, DC, and serves as executive secretary of Associated Credit Bureaus of California. In addition to this already busy schedule, Marie attends classes at the local college, and last year at the age of 79, set out to conquer the information age by obtaining her first computer.

For many years Marie has served as a volunteer for local charities. She is active in promoting women's rights, and chaired the national committee which wrote the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, giving women the right to have their own credit records. For her efforts she has received many awards, including the Soroptimist Woman of the Year Award, International Credit Association Outstanding Leadership Award, and the Distinguished Service Award, California Department of Consumer affairs.

I am proud to know Marie Haff. I offer her my warmest congratulations, and best wishes for the years ahead.

TRAVERSE CITY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the "Cherry Capital of the World" in the First Congressional District of Michigan. Celebrated for its sheltering harbors, its temperate climate, its beautiful countryside, and, of course, its cherries, Traverse City, MI, is celebrating its 150th birthday.

As in many other Great Lakes cities, logging and sawmill operations were the first industries of Traverse City, and, like other Midwest lumber towns, a major fire was part of the city's history.

Rebounding from every adversity, the city has grown to become the heart of one of the best resort and retirement areas on the Great Lakes.

Traverse City as a settled community traces its origin to the arrival of Horace Boardman and other settlers from Chicago on board the schooner *Lady of the Lake* in 1847. Mr. Boardman built a sawmill, which was purchased by Hannah, Lay and Co. in 1851. Hannah and Lay would go on to open the community's first big general store in 1883, and Perry Hannah would serve as the first village manager of Traverse City.

Some milestones in the city's history were outlined recently in its daily newspaper, the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*. This list is like a series of snapshots of a growing community in a growing nation, from the arrival of the first railroad in 1872 to the opening of the first airport in 1929, from the first log schoolhouse in

1853 to the opening of Northwestern Michigan College in 1951.

What these milestones cannot convey is the warmth of the people and the amenable climate of the area, moderated by the waters of Lake Michigan. Winters, which are here less bitter than in much of the northern United States, have allowed cherry trees and apple trees to thrive. Around 1920 Traverse City was named cherry capital of the world, and the community's first cherry festival was held. The event continues to this day.

A close look at Traverse City on its 150th anniversary reveals that its engine of economic growth is now fueled by tourism and the regular return of many summer vacationers, who are drawn to the beauty and temperate climate of the area. We see the growth of medical services, light manufacturing, and general commerce, cementing the community's role as the center of activity for northwestern lower Michigan.

We see a community which has evolved from humble beginnings to become one of the best places in the country to live and work.

Mr. Speaker, we salute Traverse City on its sesquicentennial anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CASTYNE ADAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and reflect upon the career of one of Dallas most dedicated servants. Her faithful service to Parkland Hospital was a testimony of her will to improving the lives of the patients that needed her help.

Castyne began her career of service to the Dallas area as a linen shaker for Parkland Hospital. She was drawn to Parkland because she "went to where people needed help. . . I love people and I believe that helping people is my job on earth." Mrs. Adams continued to serve to serve at Parkland for 37 years. During her tenure, she was the first African-American to become a department head, while also being the first African-American woman to serve on many Parkland committees. While at Parkland, Mrs. Adams revolutionized the linen service department to become one of the best programs in the nation handling over 27,000 pounds a day.

Mrs. Adams not only looked after the needs of her patients, but also the well being of her coworkers. She encouraged her employees to continue their education by going back to get their high school and college degrees, if they hadn't previously received them. Mrs. Adams who left school after the ninth grade received her college degree while taking night classes after work.

I thank Mrs. Adams for her years of loyal service to the citizens of Dallas and to the patients of Parkland. Thanks to the dedicated work of Mrs. Adams, her legacy and servitude will benefit generations to come.